

Hunt-Hosmer Barn
On the north side of Lowell Road past
Liberty Street, adjacent to the
Hunt-Hosmer House
Concord
Middlesex County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MA-821

HABS
MASS,
9-CON,
16-

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WRITTEN DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HUNT-HOSMER BARN

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Location: On the north side of Lowell Road past Liberty Street, adjacent to the Hunt-Hosmer House, Concord, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.

Present Owner: Thomas K. Sherwood

Present Use: Storage

Significance: This structure is a typical late seventeenth of early eighteenth century wooden frame barn and reputedly one of the oldest buildings in Concord. Of particular interest are methods of framing and joinery. Structural members are of pine and oak, joints are mortised and tenoned, fastened with wooden pegs.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. A large rectangular wooden frame structure, post and girt system with roof trusses forming equal gable. Exterior covered with a variety of vertical wooden siding.
2. Condition of fabric: Excellently maintained with little recent alteration of the original structural members and covering.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: 32'-1½" by 90'-1¼", rectangular building.
2. Foundations: Stone rubble foundations walls under exterior walls and interior partitions, partially replaced by concrete.
3. Wall construction: Wooden post and girt framing system; covered with vertical wooden boards of miscellaneous sizes (10"-20" wide, 1/2"-1" thick), up-and-down and circular sawed, tongue and grooved and lapped joint siding. Some tongue and groove siding (11" wide, 1/2" thick) has two grooves in center of board and one at the tongue edge.

4. Openings:

- a. Doors: Three large doorways, two doors each. Doors covered with vertical siding. New doors, vertical siding. Seven small doorways, four closed, old doors, vertical siding.
- b. Windows: Two openings with fixed six-light sash, 6" x 8" lights.
- c. Heart-shaped vent opening in each gable, cut into single 16" wide boards.

5. Roof:

- a. Shape and covering: Gable roof $7\frac{1}{2}$ " per foot pitch, wooden shingles on wooden sheathing.
- b. Cornice and eaves: No cornice, open eaves, no gutters or downspouts.

6. Structure: Wooden sills 8" x 8" on stone and concrete foundation walls. Post and girt structural system of oak and pine members 8" x 8" average, mortised and tenoned joints, wooden peg fasteners. Posts are continuous from sill to plate, exterior posts taper from 8" x 8" at sill to 8" x 13" at the plate to seat the roof trusses. Top chords $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x 9", bottom chords $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x 7", braces 3" x 5", and purline 7" x 8", ridge pole irregular pentagon in section, rafters between purlins and ridge pole 3" x 4". Braces 3" x 5". Hoist beams above alleys 5" x 7".

C. Description of Interior:

- 1. Floor plan: One large space flanked by two alleys, stalls pens, and store rooms, Loft on one long side and both short sides over stalls and storage rooms. Feed bins parallel to alley and stalls.
- 2. Stairways, ladders, etc.: None.
- 3. Flooring:
 - a. Earth
 - b. Double wooden floor on sleepers, board of miscellaneous widths 7"-16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- 4. Wall and ceiling finish: None. Interior spaces are defined by wooden barred openings, posts and girts, and partial wooden partitions.
- 5. Trim: None

6. Hardware: Miscellaneous iron strap hinges of various lengths and thicknesses, iron pintles, and modern hinges. Miscellaneous nails including cut and wire, with flat rectangular, square, and round heads. Wrought iron tethering rings.
7. Lighting: None
8. Heating: None

D. Site:

1. Location: Building located on the north side of the Lowell Road past Liberty Street. It is immediately west of the Hunt-Hosmer House and its garage.
2. Enclosures: None
3. Modern landscaping and black-top drives nearby of no importance. Traces of pens, and supplementary outbuildings are obliterated.

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